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Senator Warren G. Magnuson
Chairman, Committee on
Interstate and Foreign Commerce
United States Senate
Washington, D. C.

Dear Senator Magnuson:

I have your kind invitation of March 3 to appear before your Committee during its hearings on international trade for the purpose of testifying on the implications of Sino-Soviet Bloc trade expansion. While I have every desire to assist your Committee in its most important task, I believe that testimony by myself or one of my officers on the indicated subject would not be appropriate.

The organization of the intelligence community under directives of the National Security Council places responsibility for production of intelligence on trade and commerce outside of the borders of the Soviet Bloc on the Department of State. All pertinent intelligence information collected by this Agency is funneled to the Department of State, as are our analyses of internal Soviet Bloc economics. The result is that the Department is fully in a position to provide your Committee with a comprehensive presentation and evaluation of both the economic and political implications of Soviet-Bloc commercial operations in the Free World. I am advised that the Department is ready and willing to do so. I further assure you that our economic specialists will assist the appropriate officers of the State Department to the end that its appearance before your Committee will fully reflect all the information and analysis available to the entire intelligence community.

I hope that the foregoing arrangement will be satisfactory to you.

Faithfully,

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